

VALLEY STAR

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LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE

VAN NUYS, CALIFORNIA

MARCH 17, 1994

ASU rocked by continuing turmoil

By AMANDA L. DUCHOW
Editor-in-Chief

Accusations of academic ineligibility, and questions and regarding the Washington DC trip taken by Associated Student Union officials continued to rock the ASU this week.

After resigning as ASU president last week, Don Graham Jr. attempted to rescind his resignation on Friday. His attempt was rejected during the emergency Interclub Council meeting when ASU adviser Sam Mayo, Valley

College's dean of student services stated that questions regarding Graham's academic standing still exist. "Alexander is still recognized as president," said Robert Burns, ASU Chief Justice.

That decision was reversed however at Tuesday's Executive Council meeting. When Victoria Tokmazeysky, Commissioner of Athletics was recognized as the ASU's acting president by both Mayo and the Executive Committee. According to Mayo, Tokmazeysky will remain as president until either Graham's academic standing is cleared by the

Los Angeles Community College district or a special election is held.

At the Executive Council meeting on Tuesday, Ella Archibeque, Commissioner of Scholastic Activities, made a motion that an impeachment investigation be started to investigate both Alexander and Burns. The charges brought against Burns included conduct unbecoming of an ASU officer, verbal assault on an ASU officer, destruction of ASU property, possible misrepresentation of qualifications to hold office (concerning Burns' previous academic record), dissemination of misinformation to

ASU faculty and staff, misrepresentation of the authority invested in him by the ASU advisors and LAVC administration, conducting an illegal investigation, issuing illegal injunctions, breaking his oath of office, and violating judicial codes of conduct.

Archibeque asked that charges be filed against Alexander including failure to perform constitutionally mandated duties of office, failure to perform state and federally mandated codes and procedures, possible misuse of ASU funds, illegal seizure of ASU documents, destruction of ASU docu-

ments and making of illegal appointments.

Within the same motion Archibeque also asked for a temporary suspension of the officers. After the committee voted to break the motion into two separate motions, they voted in favor of the investigation, but voted to keep the two in office at this time.

Most of the charges stem from the ASU's trip to Washington DC for a student diversity conference. The funding of the trip has come under heavy fire as questions have been raised regarding whether or not proper procedure was fol-

lowed in receiving approval for the trip.

As a result of the turmoil in the ASU, commissioners are unable to access accounts needed to hold ASU events. "Events such as teacher appreciation day, and earth day are in jeopardy of being cancelled," said Archibeque.

Graham, who is hoping to have his questions of ineligibility cleared by the end of the week has issued a letter of apology to the Valley College student body. In the letter Graham took responsibility for not

See ASU page 3

HIV testing arrives

By TIFFINIE P. McENTIRE
Valley Star Staff Writer

Free HIV testing will be available to Los Angeles Valley College students next month. Prior to the actual testing AIDS drive volunteers are being sought out by the Valley Community Clinic. The final of a trio of volunteer training sessions will be held in Monarch Hall's Fireside Room on Monday, March 21 at 11 a.m. to noon.

Recruitment training will be conducted by Jerry Barros, Valley Medical Clinic Director of HIV Education. "So far we have recruited 10 volunteers and we're hoping for more," said Barros.

Those who volunteer for the AIDS Drive will initially do "public relations for the drive by going from classroom to classroom," said Commissioner of AIDS Awareness William Jung. "This is necessary to inform LAVC students of the importance of being tested for HIV."

The free testing will commence in Monarch Hall on April 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and is open



Valley Medical Clinic employees Jerry Barros and Page Moss instruct Valley College volunteers about HIV testing.

to LAVC, as well as to the community. "We want to open this event to the community because this is a service that is necessary at this time," said Jung. "We are not asking students to set up appointments because we thought it might be too discouraging."

The cost for private HIV testing usually runs from \$40 to \$70.

If you've never been tested for HIV, "Here's the process," said Barros. "After you sign up, you will be given paper work to fill out that will have a number on it. The number is to ensure your privacy. While you wait for your number to be called, you can view an educational video or live presentation."

"When your number is called,"

Barros continued, "you will meet with a counselor. This will take about 10 to 20 minutes, and is set up to answer any questions you may have and to make you feel comfortable. As soon as the patient gives consent, the blood is drawn."

"The results take a week, so on April 14 we will be back to give these results confidentially," said Barros. "To obtain these results, you must have your papers with your number on them or we will not issue your results."

Upon receiving the results those tested will be given either a referral, if tested positive, or will be sent on their way, if tested negative.

The AIDS Drive will also offer live entertainment such as theatrical performances, role playing, educational games, and Jeopardy. "This way people can learn about HIV without being tested," said Barros.

According to the Center for Disease control for the 1992-93 year, in Los Angeles County, 1 out of 150 people have been infected by HIV. The age group most affected by HIV are 13-24 year olds, with HIV rising 137% in heterosexuals and 167% in minority women, particularly latino women.

"Hopefully this AIDS Drive will be the beginning of a trend for Valley," said Jung. "In these times this is a very necessary service."

Students petition to reclaim ASU dues

By J. D. WOLVERTON
Valley Star Staff Writer

Alleging abuse of power by members of LAVC's student government, three of whom took a three-day trip last month to Washington, D.C. that came with a five thousand dollar price tag, Ella Archibeque, LAVC student and Commissioner of Scholastic Activities, has begun a petition drive to make them accountable for their lavish junket.

The petition asks for a refund to everyone who has paid the \$7 LAVC student fee this semester.

"Basically, the reason I started the petition is because the people who went on the trip to Washington came, through a strange turn of events, into power at ASU," Archibeque said in a phone interview.

The then-ASU treasurer, Liz Alexander, approved the funds for the D.C. trip, and went on the junket together with ASU Chief Justice Robert Burns and Associate Justice Frank Montes, according to Archibeque. This much is

not in dispute. What is in question is what purpose was served by the trip in terms of its value to the student body, students like Archibeque are wondering.

"This was supposed to be a three-day leadership conference that they attended. But so far, we haven't seen any materials from the conference - such as receipts regarding expenditures - to prove what the ASU officers did on the trip," the Commissioner said. She added that the treasurer has yet to issue a finance report.

What has complicated the situation, and stalled any resolution of what actually was accomplished by the D.C. trip, is that ASU President Don Graham was informed by Chief Justice Burns last month that he was ineligible, due to some yet-to-be-made-up incompletes that lowered his GPA, to continue serving in his position. Graham subsequently resigned, Treasurer Alexander became President, and she appointed Montes the new treasurer.

See PETITION page 3

Burbank Kennel Club Dog Show presents actors and canines

By LAURA DENIS
Valley Star Staff Writer

The Burbank Kennel Club hosted its fourth All-Breed Dog Show and Obedience Trial Sunday, March 13 at Los Angeles Valley College.

The Burbank Kennel Club is licensed by the American Kennel Club, so only AKC registered breeds were eligible to participate. A total of 1,593 dogs and 138 different breeds competed for honors such as best in breed, best in show and best in group.

From each breed a best of breed of chosen. Each winner from goes to a group competition to compete for the beat in group award. There are seven different groups including sporting, hounds, working, ter-

riers, toy, non-sporting, and herding. The winners were for sporting a labrador retriever, hounds, a Scottish deer hound, working, a rottweiler, terriers, a wire fox terrier, toy, a toy poodle, non-sporting, a standard poodle, and herding, an Australian cattle dog.

The seven winning dogs from each group advance to the best in show competition.

The best in show award went to a rottweiler named Champion Powderhorns Mile of Wencrest. This year the competition had a Hollywood movie theme. In keeping with that theme, King Kong carried in the best in show judge to opening movie themes.

Movie star look-alikes wandered around the show and took pictures with dogs and their owners.

The winners do not receive any cash prizes. However giant ribbons and trophies are given out and the dog's national ranking improves. The final awards ceremony ended around 6:00 p.m.

Trailers and campers filled the north parking lot at LAVC on Saturday as competitors camped out to wait for the competition to begin. Dogs were kept outside the campers in various kennels and cages. Many entrants arrived early to familiarize their dogs with the show grounds.

The dog show offered spectators the chance to buy supplies. Stores and private businesses set up stands in the north-east parking lot. Various dog paraphernalia was sold such as magnets and coffee cups with different breeds pictured on the object.



A host of characters pose with the prize winner at the Burbank Kennel Club Dog Show.

MEL CAMILLERI/VALLEY STAR

Editorial

Wilson's budget; The sky's the limit

Two years ago Valley College students traveled by bus to Sacramento lobbying the legislature in order to save community colleges against fee increases proposed by Governor Pete Wilson. While funds are scarce for a similar trip, students could take similar actions.

What we did two years ago impressed many legislators. They rejected the proposed tuition increase and opted for smaller one. It made them think twice before sacrificing our access to education. They heard the voices of their constituents, the students.

Students are voters. We need to act like voters. Many students may not know this, but elected officials have an unofficial formula to decide how their constituency wants them to vote.

One phone call is equivalent to how 10 voters feel about an issue. One letter is equivalent to 1,000. If a voter comes to their office to discuss an issue that is power, because that is what lobbyists do. They meet with and talk with elected officials about specific issues.

Valley College students may not have the money to go to Sacramento, but we have telephones, we can write letters. What is 20 cents or 29 cents worth to you? How about your education? With 18,000 students on the phone, we could represent 180,000

constituents. A letter from each of us would mean that 18,000,000 have spoken. Valley Star challenges anyone who dares:

To contact their state representative either in the Assembly or the Senate. Just say No to Pete Wilson and Yes to education. We could have a contest! We will be the winners!

California once known as the *Education State*, has become the *Crime State* not to mention the *Diaster State*. If we want to change this image and save our educational institutions for ourselves and our children, we need to act now and quickly.

In April it will happen again. The legislature will vote on budget allocation. Only this time Wilson could propose as much as 50 dollars per unit. Wilson wants twice the budget allocation for correctional institutions than he does for education, and to what end? The more this state has spent on corrections the higher the crime rate, the less we spend on education the higher the crime rate.

Students from out-of-state used to flock to our colleges and universities, inspite of the fees. Not only to UCLA and USC, but to state colleges as well as to community colleges, because they were known to be among the best.

If we do not act now higher education will be available only to those who can afford it. That's the way it is in third world countries.



Clean sweep needed for student government

□ A fresh start in ASU should begin at the top

By S.L. SALAMONE
Managing Editor

I've really had enough of this. The Associated Student Union is crumbling before our very eyes.

First, we read that a student or students elected into an officer position didn't have the grade-point average to hold the office, (2.0 is all that is required). Can you imagine a student officer with less?

Then we find out some officers elected this semester already had degrees and/or were carrying too many class units, making them ineligible to hold those offices to which they had already been elected. But wait, it gets better.

These ineligible ASU officers had already appointed officers of their own and now these students too are holding positions in error. And, the best is yet to come.

While in office, these ineligible

officers disregarded all school policy or procedure (though, this is in keeping with their modus operandi/m.o. so far) by diverting public funds and going to Washington D.C. with student body money!

The cherry on the cake is that the ASU advisors okayed this whole affair! What a mess!

Doesn't anyone know how to read over there? (With some of the students holding less than a 2.0 grade average, this could be a very reasonable assumption.)

What happened to the reading of the Constitution? What happened to following correct procedure? What about job descriptions and qualifications? What happened to following the rules?

I'll tell you how it happened. The students involved in running the student government play musical chairs every semester.

This whole situation is absolutely unbelievable! ASU is a house of cards falling apart from the top down.

I, for one, have had enough of the people who don't take this institution of ours seriously. The carelessness, the apathy and self-serving attitudes have just got to go.

I think it should start at the top. I hope everyone currently in the ASU is given the boot. The place should be swept clean and a fresh start made.

There have got to be students on campus with grade-point averages higher than 2.0 who care about school, learning and education.

The chance is now to speak up and be heard. We deserve better. Write a letter and demand your money back. I'm certainly not going to pay for another trip to Washington.

Students can lower tuition with a vote

By HAROLD BROWN
Valley Star Staff Writer

I find it hard to believe that I live in a society that has no respect for a basic principle that this country was founded upon, and which other countries fight so hard to get. This principle I refer to is the right to vote.

Pending in the state legislature is a bill, AB 2617, that affects community colleges, including the students of Valley College. The crime is that students are often apathetic about voting.

AB 2617 will lower tuition to \$10 per unit with a \$100 cap. Few students seem interested or care enough to voice an opinion on matters which pertain to them, yet it seems they howl the loudest

over registration fees when the time comes to pay them. Even if you receive financial aid, your input is absolutely necessary.

The fact is many bills, like AB 2617 get lost in the shuffle or tossed aside due to the apathy of those it could benefit the most. In this case students would directly benefit if AB 2617 is passed.

For those students who have a sense of urgency, talk to your fellow students who do not have a clue about reality. Tell them that only those cries that go unheard are the ones that are gagged. For the clueless, get help to unbind your hands and take the gags out of your mouths. Let your voices be heard.

About 50 percent of registered voters vote in a general election,

with only about 37 percent voting in local elections. On ballot issues, the voter turnout is almost nonexistent except for those issues that affect those who vote.

The majority of active voters are your parents, grandparents, and significant others. The other voters are property owners, people on fixed incomes and the ones against changes.

As students, AB 2617 directly affects each of us. Voting is our strongest weapon and is the only way we can change our future.

If you cannot vote, make a difference by calling your local and state representatives. Now is the time to get a clue, because tomorrow may be too late.

VALLEY STAR



Editorial and Advertising offices
5800 Fulton Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91401
(818) 781-1200, ex. 275/276
Advertising Ext. 239

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1800 Sherman Pl. Evanston, IL 60201

Valley Star Staff

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LETTERS

LETTERS

LETTERS

LETTERS

The Valley Star welcomes letters from its readers. Letters will be published whenever possible. The Star reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be typed and be limited to 250 words. Letters are subject to editing if they are obscene, libelous, or make racial, ethnic, religious, sexist, or sexually oriented denigrations. All letters must be signed and include students ID number, major, and a telephone number for verification purposes. Letters may be dropped in the Valley Star mail box at Bungalow 25, by Monday morning for the following Thursday's publication.

Letters to the editor

Former ASU let down by executive council

Dear Editor:

We would like to respond to the outrageous conduct by the ASU in the past few weeks. This controversy has resulted in ASU business coming to a stop.

The direct result is not helping anybody. It is particularly not helping those student who support ASU.

The incident is an embarrassment to Valley College along with student government. The victims are the general student body who depended upon

the ASU executive board for leadership. The ASU executive board was entrusted with funds to allocate to learning facilities and club events on campus.

The sad part of this incident is that commissioners who were not involved are included among those who were involved. Some of these people really care about Valley and are tired of this stupid childish nonsense.

We hope that the new president and new commissioners will work together as a team, not against one another.

Michael McKinney
Campus Christian Fellowship

George W. Heath
Campus Christian Fellowship

Mary Jo Fernado
Disability Club

Chris James
Former ASU Associate Justice

Ken Edelberg
Former ASU Justice and Commissioner

Andrew Embuido
Former ASU Commissioner



Michael Norman takes a break to fill out a job application at the LAVC Job Fair, while Juyuen Lee sits by.

Petition circulates to recall faculty vote

By LAURA DENIS
Valley Star Staff Writer

A petition is currently being circulated by Los Angeles Valley College Economics Professor Glenn R. Milner to retract the vote of "no confidence" given to LAVC President Mary Lee because, "My impression was that expediency replaced 'due process' at every step."

The petition contains 11 where-as statements.

Whereas the date selected for Feb. 9, 1994 General Faculty meeting coincided with a scheduled board meeting and official duties prevented Dr. Lee from attending the meeting and responding to the charges against her.

Whereas the location chosen for the meeting had inadequate capacity and prevented faculty from getting into the room to participate in the discussion.

Whereas many people present at the location were not faculty, and not eligible to vote.

Whereas the issue of a quorum was raised but not resolved.

Whereas the location did not allow for a quorum to be in attendance.

Whereas the motion was not fully articulated at the time of the vote and the motion could not be read to the faculty prior to the vote.

Whereas past practice regarding motions of such importance called for a noticed motion format.

Whereas failure to notice motion to the entire Faculty Association disenfranchised those members that could not be present and would have voted proxy.

Whereas failure to notice the motion to the entire Faculty Association disenfranchised those members that simply could not get into

the room to participate in the meeting.

Whereas topics discussed at a later date by the Academic Senate were attributed to "The Faculty" and were not approved at the time of the Faculty Association meeting of Feb. 9, 1994.

Whereas failure to establish the existence of a quorum, disenfranchisement of faculty members, and statements falsely inferred to the Faculty Association do not constitute "due process" nor do they conform with past practice.

Milner is petitioning the LAVC Academic Senate to move that the president of the Faculty Senate call another General Faculty Meeting at a time prior to spring break 1994 to recall the action of the Feb. 9 meeting and reconsider the motion with due process.

A General Faculty Meeting was held on Wednesday March 10 at which Lee responded to the complaints filed against her, however a vote was not taken. At the present time, no faculty meeting has been set to re-vote.

At last count Milner said he had over 60 signatures and only one negative response. Milner said, "My objective in writing this was to get people to reconsider the issue."

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OASU cont'd from 1 taking more control of the planning of the trip to Washington DC.

"The decision to let Ms. Alexander organize the trip to the conference was mine to make. Ever since I made the decision I have been swamped with opinions on all sides of the issue. If the decision was a bad one, then it was my fault and I apologize to the students of LA Valley College for violating their trust," said Graham in the letter.

At present, Tokmazyesky remains in the office as president while Alexander and Burns remain in their positions as well. "I am hopeful this will all be cleared up soon," said Graham.

OPETITION cont'd from 1

"We're concentrating on the problem of the status of Don Graham right now," Archibeque said. Whether Graham can be reinstated as ASU President will be decided by Dean Mayo, the new Dean of Student Services, by today, Archibeque said.

Once reinstalled, Graham can authorize an investigation. One of the problems as the situation now stands is that the person who could

authorize an investigation is Robert Burns, the Chief Justice, who was one of the group that went on the Washington trip, the Commissioner said.

"The petition is to ensure that the ASU knows that the student body is not going to sit still for this kind of irresponsible spending," Archibeque said.

"I felt that the students should ask for their money back because the people in charge of the ASU

Class teaches students defense with newly legalized weapon

By BRENDEN MORRIS
Valley Star Staff Writer

Students who were interested in attending a pepper spray class, but were unable to make the class held last week will have another opportunity. A second class is being held March 22 from 5:30 pm. to 6:30 pm. in Bungalow 2. The cost of the class is \$25.

The pepper spray class consists of a few basic things. First, a video is shown describing techniques, effects and safety procedures for operating pepper spray. Then a written test is required with a pass-

ing grade. For those who fail to pass the written exam, the test may be taken as many times as necessary.

Once the class has been taken and the permit obtained, the the purchase of pepper spray can be made.

Currently pepper spray is for sale at B&B Sales on Oxnard in North Hollywood.

Teaching the class is John Robertson, a qualified Post Certified, Chemical Agents Officer. Robertson is a former Valley student and is currently an instructor, teaching the Administration of Justice classes.

As of March 1, legislation made it possible for the everyday citizen to carry pepper spray, a non-lethal form of self defense.

Originally, pepper spray was used as a repellent for bears and other large animals.

Pepper spray is also known as OC gas which simply means aerosol cayenne pepper.

When sprayed in the face, pepper spray causes watering and irritation of the eyes, forcing the eyes to remain closed.

Effects of the spray lasts up to forty minutes. For optimal effect, pepper spray is best used at three to ten feet from the attacker.

Wishing you the luck of the Irish

Today Valley College students, faculty, and staff, find themselves wearing a bit of green and hoping for the luck of the Irish.

St. Patrick's day is the day we celebrate all that's Irish. Irish coffee, Irish literature, four leaf clovers, shamrocks, Danny Boy, and the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.

For St. Patrick's day, we offer you these suggestions: indulge yourself in

a Daniel Day Lewis film festival, kiss your local Irish neighbor, listen to some U2, look for Irish eyes that are smiling, pick up James Joyce's 'Dubliners', or go searching for Finnegan's rainbow.

While St. Patrick spent this day driving all the snakes from Ireland, and Irish moms hold their children upside down to kiss the Blarney stone, indulge

yourself in some "Flinstones" and *Blarney Rubble*.

All kidding aside, we, the the Valley Star staff, wish those of Irish descent on the Valley College Campus, the happiest St. Patrick day. Watch for leprechauns under your feet, you never know where they are hiding.

-compiled by Robert O' Finkel

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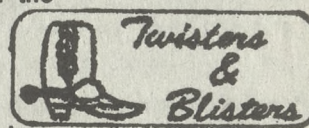
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S.L. SALAMONE/Valley Star

Spring into jazz

By S.L. SALAMONE
Managing Editor

The Studio Jazz Band is playing today at 11 a.m. in Music Room 112. *Mid-summer* is the semesters premier jazz concert and best of all it's free.

Woody James, director of the 18 piece Studio Jazz Band said the concert will feature, "typical big band stuff." Bob Sadoff is the arranger for *Mid-Summer* and Edward McDowell is the composer.

All band members are Valley students and a few have been with James for 15 years. There are

some real professionals in this band. Buddy Childers played with Stan Kenton and his band for years.

The bands oldest member is Enrai Bernardi, 82, who aside from being in politics was given a star on the Hollywood walk of fame for his jazz playing. He wrote arrangements for *Marie* and *Getting Sentimental Over You* for the Tommy Dorsey Band.

The Studio Jazz Band will give another concert in May and they will play for the graduation commencement. They can also be seen and heard at the Camarillo Arts Festival where they play every year in June.

Greg Kykes and Kenny Schroyer warm up for the Spring concert.

Rudy Coby plays tonight

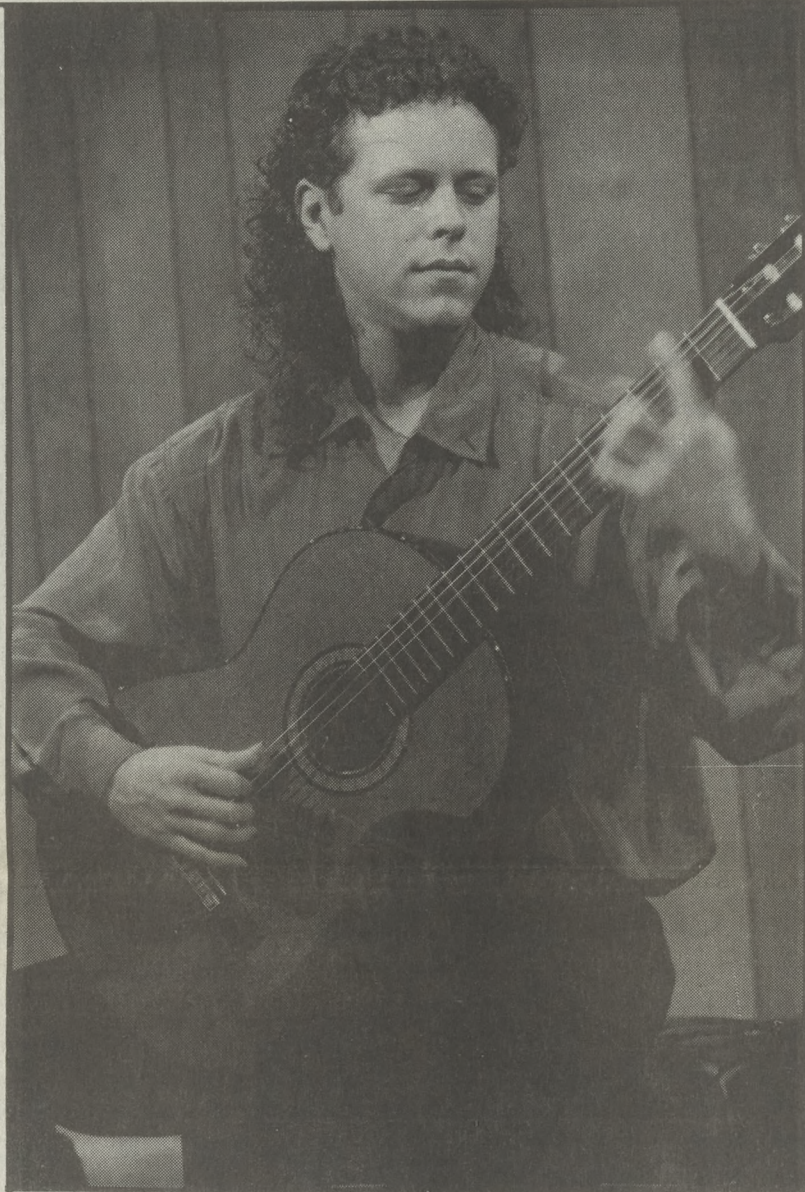
Tonight The Valley Collegiate Players present The Rudy Coby Show. The show will run for seven days here in the Little Theater.

Show times are Thursday and Friday, March 17, 18, 24, 25 at 8 p.m., Saturday, March 20, 26 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Ticket prices are \$10 general admission and \$7 for seniors and students with id.

Truely outrageous comedy magic, Coby uses bright neon, pounding synthesized music, computerized lighting and smoky special effects.

For more information call the show reservation hot line (818) 781-1200 ext. 353.



DARYL GLINN/Valley Star

Classical guitar student, Jordan Charnofsky performing magic.

Time put on hold for an afternoon

By DARYL GLINN
Valley Star Staff Writer

The lights dimmed and out walked this young, long-haired, cherubic, innocent, carrying of all things, a classical guitar. His polished movements spoke of a much older man, but Jordan Charnofsky was full of dichotomies last Thursday, March 10 for the free concert held here at 11:50 am.

Charnofsky, a graduate of Cal-State Northridge is currently attending the University of Southern California. He is completing the requirements for a doctorate degree in guitar performance. Charnofsky is also an assistant lecturer and professional guitar teacher. He has performed widely

as a soloist throughout Southern California and is currently touring the local community colleges.

The first set of Charnofsky's presentation consisted of modern Latin American guitar solos by Astor Piazzola and Augustine Barrios Mangore. In keeping with the Latin beat, Charnofsky used a beating of the strings with his hand that created an exciting and exhilarating sound.

The second set was dedicated to Charnofsky's original works. Between sets, as Charnofsky stopped to retune, he talked about the works he has composed. *Reflecting Pools at Kamakura* speaks of a traveler who happens onto a Japanese Buddhist temple. It is meditative and serene and the musical composition reflects this.

Charnofsky's last piece, *Laguna Breeze* was introduced with quick finger work and a sudden knock, knock as he tapped the wood of his guitar. As he continued into the song, using a beautiful, full strumming technique, a barely audible sigh could be heard throughout the audience.

This seemed to inspire Charnofsky as he started picking his guitar using both hands, creating a sound so voluminous it sounded as if there were two guitars playing together.

Charnofsky bowed to enthusiastic applause, and the audience expectantly awaited an encore, but instead the performer exited the stage and house lights were turned up, bringing reality back into view.

Artists needed

Peace Project art exhibit and performance festival for more information contact: David Jernigan at (818) 899-6191

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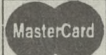


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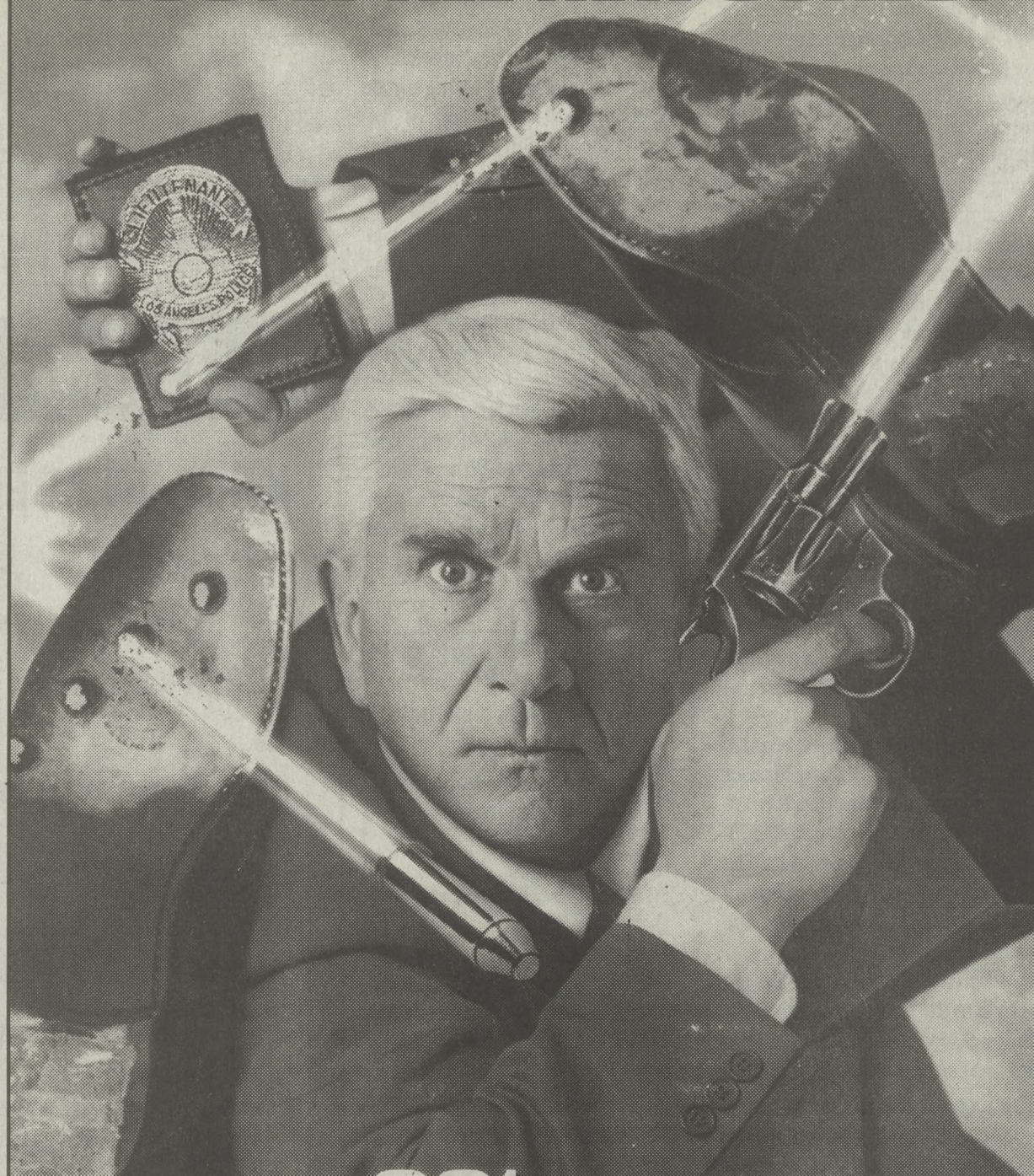
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MARCH 18

Vision explodes into hotspot

□ North Hollywood's Eclectic Cafe, an embodiment of quintessentialism in culture

By JOHN A. LEVINE
Feature Editor

Good food, good music, and good art stimulate people explains Brian Sheehan the owner, designer, and builder, of the Eclectic Cafe, situated in North Hollywood (NoHo).

"I love communicating with people and talking to people, and helping people. If you seat four people who are in a rotten mood the atmosphere, food, art, and service should distract them from their mood," says Sheehan, a psychology major at Valley College.

Sheehan has been involved in the community most of his life. He graduated Oakwood High School, located just West of the Eclectic on Magnolia, is a Valley College student, taking a music class and a philosophy class, and has family in the neighborhood.

"When you're living in a restaurant your world becomes a vacuum, really small, going to

school helps break the walls that are surrounding me," says Sheehan.

Sheehan has more than a business venture in the community. "I grew up in the area, I went to school here. I have a family commitment to the area. My

inspiration to others," continues Sheehan.

Sheehan's staff of 18 supports his love of the Eclectic and the concepts on which it was founded. "Brian knows how it feels to be a waiter. He's not stiff, he interacts with his employees. He welcomes suggestions," says Stephanie Slaton, one of Sheehan's waitresses.

The word eclectic means selected from various sources. "I came up with the name eclectic when a friend asked me what type of place I wanted to open. I told her I wanted Italian food, and California cuisine, with Jazz music in the background, and coffee. She hit on the name eclectic as an adjective to describe the place, and the name stuck," Sheehan says.

"The name allowed me to open a potpourri atmosphere. Even the mediums in the art and photography are eclectic," continues Sheehan.

Sheehan's ideas for opening a

restaurant have been in his head since he was young. "I was doing dinner parties at 15 or 16 years old," he explains, "after I graduated I was catering but I always wanted to open a restaurant."

Sheehan had been acting since he was 15 and he was waiting to become famous so that he had the foundation on which to start his restaurant. "By my mid-twenties, I realized that I might be waiting for a long time, and that I couldn't wait any longer. That's when I started to develop the idea and begin the process."

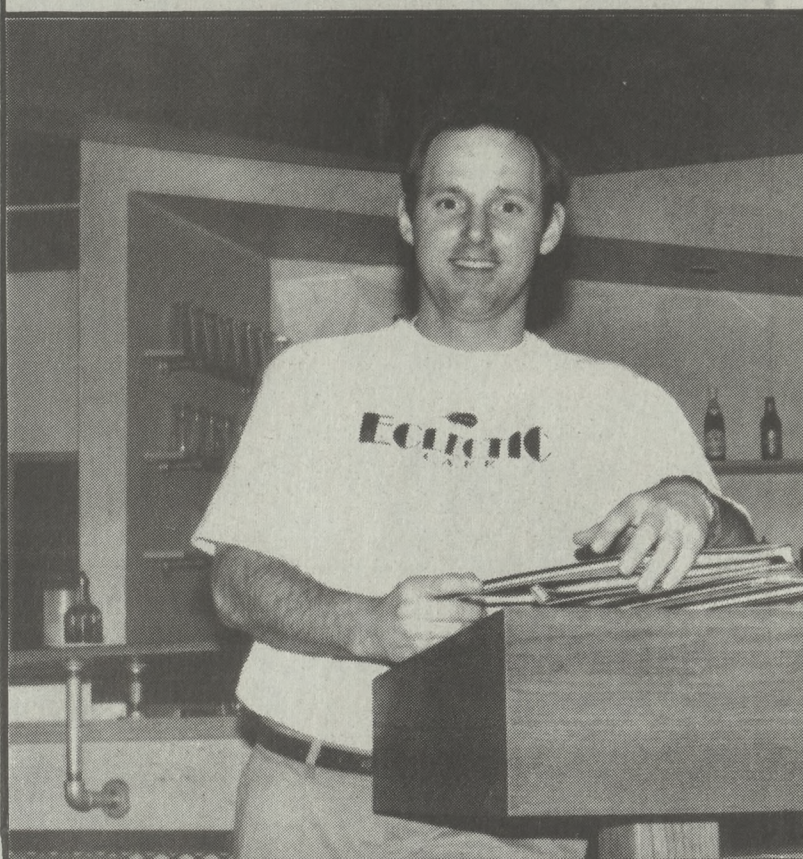
Sheehan has more than the restaurant on his hands though, he is also involved in the development of NoHo, which is being called both the valley's Melrose, and the West coast's answer to SoHo. "We are in the embryotic stage. The Chamber of Commerce created the NoHo Cultural Affairs Committee. We have come together with restaurants, culture, and theatre, but the concept is still a vision. More people are still coming into the community," explains Sheehan.

The Eclectic draws its customers from local businesses, primarily those in the entertainment industry. The Academy of Television Arts and Sciences is located directly across the street, and Universal Studios, Disney, MCA, and Landmark are all in the immediate vicinity. "Lunch is our steady solid meal period during the week," says Sheehan, "and our Saturday and Sunday brunches attract students, actors and actresses, models, and people who have just come from church," he continues.

The Eclectic is an environment like no other claims Sheehan. Jazz, folk, and blues bands play in the background Thursday through Sunday at night. The walls of the Eclectic are used as exhibition space for local artists, and sculptures dot the floor. "You come here to eat dinner, and hear great music. The music is supposed to compliment the food," Sheehan says.

Brian Sheehan

□ Serving up culture and diversity in NoHo



ALEX SZUCH/Valley Star

Brian Sheehan, 32, who graduated Oakwood High School in 1981, and now attends Valley College as a member of the Transfer Alliance Program (TAP), owns the Eclectic Cafe, located on the corner of Magnolia and Lankershim.

The cafe draws a large lunch crowd from the surrounding entertainment community. Serving up Italian dishes, as well as California Cuisine, and offering a variety of Italian style desserts, the Eclectic, as its name suggests, embodies diversity and culture.

"When we started we were more of a cafe, music venture, but now we are a restaurant, where the music and art add character," Sheehan explains.

Customers can sit either at one of the tables, each of which is unique in its view of the space Sheehan created, chair style and art on the wall above, or at the counter which offers the casual atmosphere often associated with light snacks and coffee.

"I did the framing, the dry-wall, and I oversaw the entire construction," says Sheehan. "The only thing I did not do is put together the construction draw-

ings, as I am not a licensed architect," he continues.

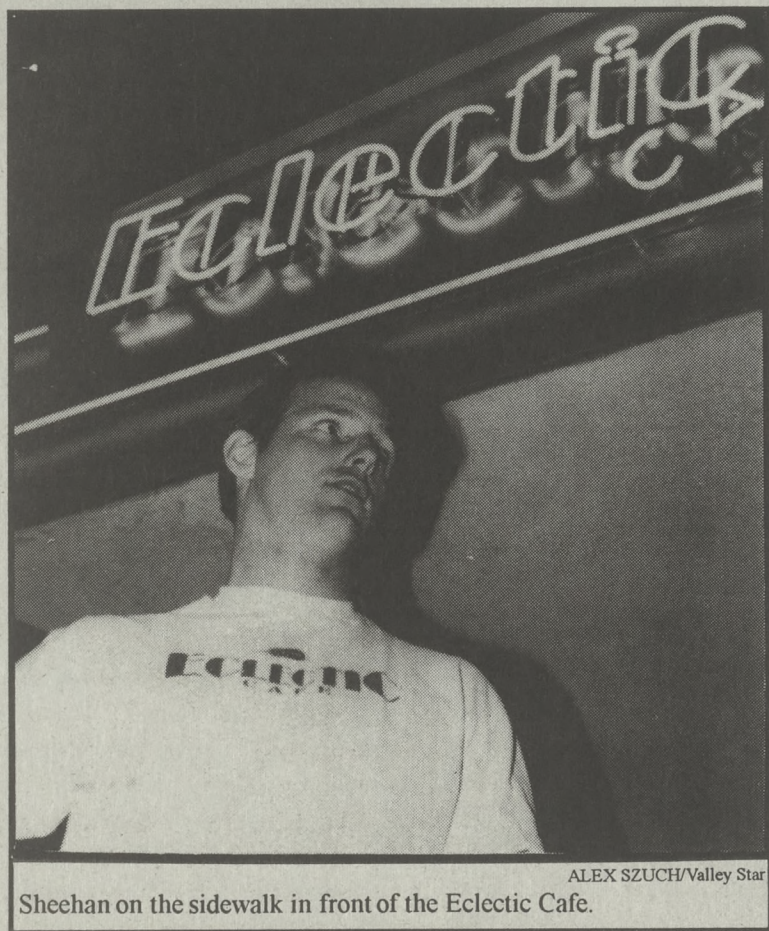
Sheehan took classes at University of California, Los Angeles in restaurant operations and construction and hopes to return to UCLA at some point to continue his efforts to earn a degree in psychology.

The Eclectic is open Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. until 12 p.m., or whenever the last customers have finished their meals. On the weekend, it opens at 9 a.m. for brunch, and once again closes when the last customers have completed their meals.

Thursday nights the cafe offers an acoustical musical performance, while Friday and Saturday nights the stage is usually occupied by a light blues band or sometimes a jazz band. Sunday nights are jazz night at the Eclectic.

Regardless of the night, the music is merely a background effect meant to liven the atmosphere, and provide an enjoyable accompaniment to the fine food and great service Sheehan explained.

"I hope that I can set an example, both to the kids, and to the community, showing them what is possible," Sheehan says.



ALEX SZUCH/Valley Star

Sheehan on the sidewalk in front of the Eclectic Cafe.



D'ANDRE FORD/Valley Star

The dining space of the Eclectic Cafe boasts modern architecture, and displays art on the walls.

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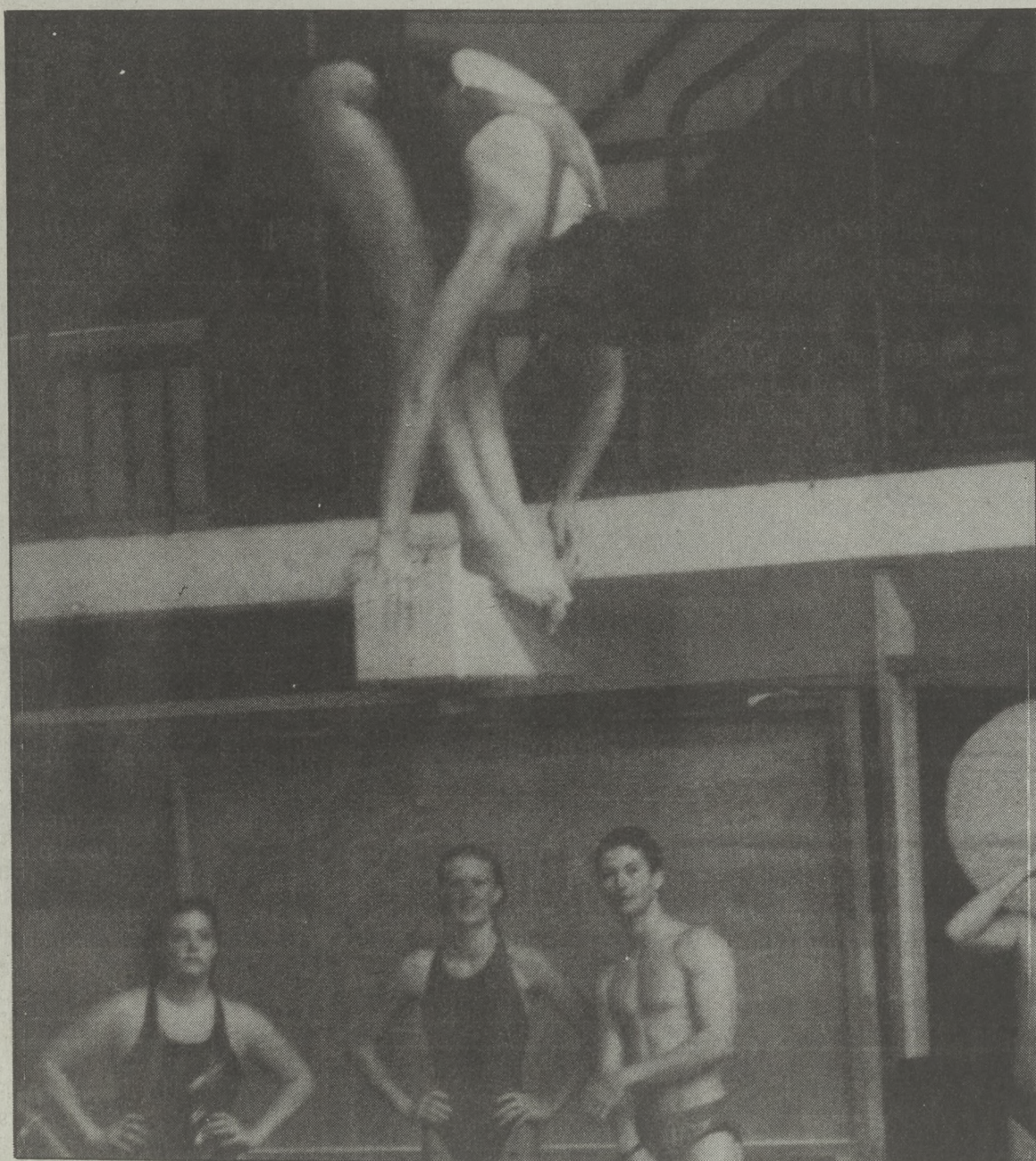
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DADI ADI/Valley Star

Anush Mkrtumyan won the diving competition for Valley College at the El Camino swim meet with 191 points.

Swim team sinks

□ Monarchs lose El Camino meet

By HOVIK KAZANCHYAN
Sports Editor

El Camino College swept the Valley College Monarch swim teams on Wednesday, March 9, winning the men's competition 60-40, and the women's competition 70-36, at El Camino.

The men could not keep up with El Camino. "El Camino outswam us by winning both the medley relay and the freestyle relay," said Valley Head Coach Bill Krauss. "Those wins accounted for 14 points for them and 0 for us."

Valley also got swept in the distance freestyle events. El Camino took the 1,000 yard freestyle, the 500 yard freestyle, and the 200 yard free style.

The Lions did take the sprint freestyle events. Danny Kim won the 50 yard freestyle in 22.7 sec-

onds and the 100 yard freestyle in 51.3 seconds.

Chris Imhof placed second in both of these events. By having the top two finishers from Valley in two events, the Monarchs outscored El Camino 16-2.

"El Camino out swam us by winning both the medley relay and the freestyle relay. Those wins accounted for 14 points for them and 0 for us."

-Bill Krauss

But that was not enough, as the only other winner from the Monarchs was Raymond Akopyan in the 200 yard individual medley with a time of 2:06.1.

The story for the women was a lot different from the men. The result was not the difference, but the reason was.

Valley swimmer Marsha Yadon twisted her ankle walking to the bus and was unable to swim.

Another Monarch, Shany Myers, who won three events in the Fullerton meet a week before, injured her shoulder after winning the 50 yard freestyle, and only swam in one event in this meet.

Maribel Montanez could not even swim in one event because she hurt her lower back the day before.

The Lions did, however, have some winners. Elizabeth Valdez-Kennedy won the 50 yard backstroke in 34.8 seconds and the 100 yard backstroke in 1:15.1. Anush Mkrtumyan won the diving competition with 191 points.

Track teams complete conference mini-meets

By CLAUDIA ABLAZA
Valley Star Staff Writer

The Monarch track team had their final conference meet against Glendale and Cuesta at Glendale College last Friday.

Randy Fort placed first in four separate events coming in with 15.67 seconds in the 10 hurdles, 42 feet 3 inches in the triple jump, 21 feet 5 3/4 inches in the long jump, and 6 feet 4 inches in the men's high.

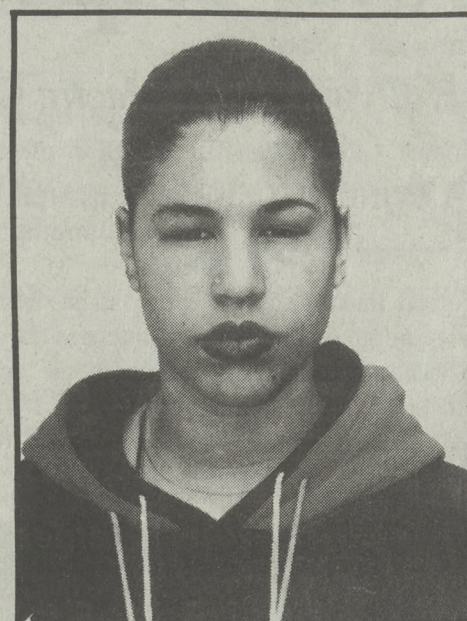
Women's high jumper Cicely Brewster placed second with 4 feet 10 inches on her first time jumping. Brewster said, "Most people have trouble clearing 4 feet 4 inches or 4 feet 5 inches."

The men's 4 X 100 A Team relay in which Eric Hutchinson, Mike Norman, Marcus Mc Millan and Kurt Wolf ran, placed first with 43.18 seconds. Norman also gained another first place for Valley running 48.9 seconds in the men's 400 meter.

For the women Nobue Saito came in first in both the 100 meter dash with 12.75 seconds, and in the 200 meter dash with 26.2 seconds.

Although, the Monarchs did not place the highest overall at Friday's meet, most of the team members agree that the real fun starts when the invitationals begin this Saturday in Sacramento.

Athlete of the month



MEL CAMILLERI/Valley Star

Freshmen Erica Upton out of Van Nuys High School took over the starting center position for the Lady Monarchs basketball team.

Upton averaged over 8 rebounds per game in February. In a game against Santa Monica she grabbed a season high 12 rebounds.

Although Upton's board play got her the starting position and the "Athlete of the Month," she also averaged 8 points per game including a team high 12 points in the seasons finale against the Pierce College Brahmas.

*compiled by-
Hovik Kazanchyan*

Swimmers glide by Pasadena

The Monarch swim team defeated Pasadena on Wednesday, March 16, at Valley College. The men won 81-30 and the women won 98-19.

For the men, Raymond Akopyan won the events, the 200 yard individual medley, the 200 butterfly and the 200 breaststroke. Chris Imhof won the 100 and 200 freestyles. Bobby Bodroglegeti won the 500 freestyle. Neal Ferraro swept the one meter and three meter diving competitions.

The women had two triple win-

ners, Shany Myers and Ann Choi. Myers won the 50 yard freestyle, the 50 butterfly and the 100 freestyle. Choi won the 50 breaststroke, the 100 breaststroke and the 100 individual medley. Elizabeth Valdez-Kennedy won took the 50 backstroke, and the one meter and three meter diving competitions were won by Eyre Becker and Julie Ameronger, respectively.

*compiled by-
Hovik Kazanchyan*

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